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5 Ways to  
spend your  
St. Patty's Day.  
10-11

# Drink NOTORIOUSLY

Find out which drink you should toast with on St. Patrick's Day from Ireland's baddest, former UFC champion Conor McGregor. 9

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Huawei Technologies is the No. 2 smartphone maker in the world.

Attorneys representing Huawei Technologies Co., James Cole, Michael Levy and David Bitkower, depart the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York following an arraignment hearing on March 14, 2019, in Brooklyn. Huawei Technologies, the No. 2 smartphone maker in the world, was arraigned on Thursday morning on charges that it lied to banks about transactions that violated economic sanctions.

# Huawei arraigned on fraud and violating Iran sanctions

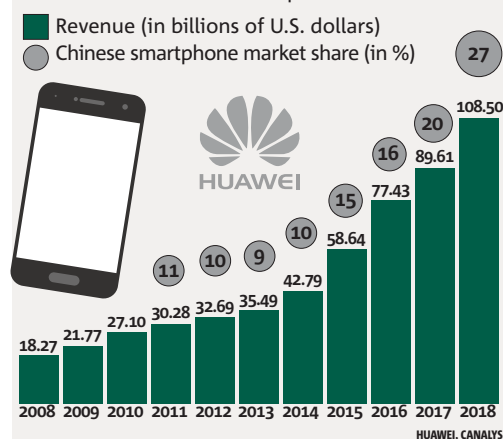


GETTY IMAGES



## The steep rise of Huawei

Revenue and Chinese smartphone market share.



## O'Rourke jumps into 2020 presidential race

**2** Beto O'Rourke launched a run on Thursday for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination, hoping his message and the fame gained from his unsuccessful election challenge against U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz in Texas last year set him apart from a diverse field. O'Rourke, a former three-term U.S. congressman and a punk rocker in his youth, pledged to tackle "the interconnected crises

in our economy, our democracy and our climate." "This moment of peril produces, perhaps, the greatest moment of promise for this country," O'Rourke, 46, said in an online video. O'Rourke, who has traded on his charisma to sprint up the political ladder, enters a crowded field of Democratic hopefuls with a proven ability to raise money from donors online and a willingness to campaign relentlessly.

## Smollett pleads not guilty to lying about attack

**3** "Empire" actor Jussie Smollett pleaded not guilty in a Chicago court on Thursday to new charges that he falsely reported to police that he was the victim of a racist and homophobic assault on a city street. Wearing a navy suit and dress coat, Smollett, 36, appeared serious and quiet standing next to his attorneys as Cook County Circuit Court Judge Steven Watkins was assigned to his case. "Yes, sir," Smollett said in a soft voice as the judge instruct-

ed him that he would next return to court on April 12. Some of his relatives sat in the court's overflow gallery near a handful of fans, some wearing "Empire" shirts. In an indictment returned by a grand jury last Thursday, Smollett, who is black, openly gay and plays a gay musician on Fox's hip-hop drama, was charged with 16 felony counts of disorderly conduct alleging he gave false accounts of an attack on him to police investigators.

## Russian rocket lifts off with rocket failure survivors

**4** A Russian-made Soyuz rocket lifted off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on Thursday, carrying three astronauts into space, two of whom survived a mid-air rocket failure in October. The Soyuz MS-12 took off at 19:14 GMT, as planned, and is due to bring Russian cosmonaut Alexei Ovchinin and U.S. astronauts Nick Hague and Christina Koch to the International Space Station around eight hours later. For Ovchinin and Hague,

it is the first flight since an emergency landing two minutes after they blasted off on Oct. 11, 2018. An investigation showed then that the abortive launch was caused by a sensor damaged during the rocket's assembly at the cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. This week, Ovchinin and Hague said they were confident this time about reaching the International Space Station, though they said a small fault had been discovered on their rocket during final checks.

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## NEWS

# Alleged Gambino crime boss shot, killed outside Staten Island home

Francesco "Franky Boy" Cali was fatally shot in the torso and run over by a blue pickup truck driven by the shooter.

The reported crime boss of the New York Mafia's Gambino family, Francesco "Franky Boy" Cali, was gunned down in front of his Staten Island home late Wednesday, police and media said.

Cali, 53, was fatally shot multiple times to his torso shortly after 9 p.m. Thursday in front of his home, police said.

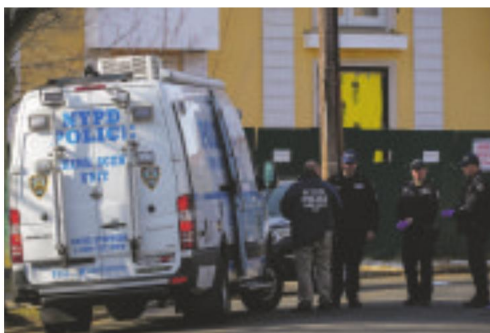
Media, including the New York Post, reported that Cali was shot at least six or seven times and also run over by a blue pickup truck driven by the shooter, citing unidentified police sources.



POLIZIA ITALIANA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

The Gambino crime operation is one of the five historic Italian-American Mafia families in New York, Reuters has previously reported, and it makes money through violence and extortion.

Charges against members of Mafia operations, including Gambino family operatives, have included murder, loan sharking, gam-



New York City Police (NYPD) crime scene investigators. REUTERS IMAGES

bling and illegal drug distribution, Reuters has reported.

**"There are no arrests and the investigation is ongoing."**

#### Police statement

The New York Daily News reported in 2008 that Cali was among 62

people arrested on federal racketeering charges and he later pleaded guilty to conspiring to extort money. He served a 16-month sentence.

There is no known motive for the shooting of Cali, a police watch commander told Reuters.

"There are no arrests and the investigation is ongoing," police said in a statement. REUTERS



Scene where reported Gambino family crime boss was killed. REUTERS IMAGES



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# Why Aren't Doctors Telling Knee Arthritis Sufferers About These Two Often Successful Treatments?

## *Two Advanced Medical Treatments Every Knee Arthritis Sufferer Needs To Know - Before Or After Knee Replacement Surgery*

**NYC-If** you suffer with knee arthritis pain, you have probably already tried *many* treatments... especially countless pain medications. With minimal or no results

### **Are there any better options?**

Thankfully, advancements in science and technology come extremely fast. And now there are two very good options for knee arthritis *a lot of knee arthritis sufferers have never heard of.*

### **Before we get into the two treatments, please understand this...**

**NYC Pain MD** is a REAL medical clinic that has treated thousands of knee arthritis sufferers. Patients travel from all over the state to be treated at one of their clinics because they want the best medical treatments available.

What you are about to discover are two REAL medical treatments. Not miracle cures you see on infomercials or on the internet.

**Know this fact:** There is no cure for arthritis. But there are *these* two treatments that have already helped thousands of knee arthritis sufferers - possibly just like you.

### **#1 Viscosupplementation**

Here's what you need to know about viscosupplementation - the good and the bad....

When you have arthritis, you suffer a decrease in the lubrication fluids in your knee. In other words, your knee joints basically "dries up."

The lubricating fluid that decreases is called "synovial fluid."

Pharmaceutical companies (with the help of scientists) can now make synovial fluid-like compounds that... during viscosupplementation treatments... doctors

precisely inject directly into the knee joint.

This helps replace the lubricating fluid to the knee joint - allowing it to move more freely and smoothly and often decreasing or even eliminating the pain.

### **What Results Can Be Expected?**

Like all medical treatments, the results vary and can not be predicted. But many knee arthritis sufferers get dramatic results. It is not uncommon for patients to either postpone knee replacement surgery for years... or even permanently cancel it.

### **But There Is A BIG Problem**

The key is the treatment must be EXTREMELY PRECISE. If the procedure is slightly off, the formula will not get into the knee joint and the treatment will not work.

That's why the experts at **NYC Pain MD** use advanced digital imaging so they visually guide the injection accurately into the knee joint during the treatment.

Research shows that performing joint injections without imaging miss the joint as much as 30% of the time.

If you have had prior viscosupplementation without this special digital imaging without good results - this may be the exact reason why.

That's why NYC Pain MD even takes it one step further. They do not just use one form of advanced imaging during treatment - they use two in their "double confirmation" process. This is to ensure patients get the best possible results.

### **Another Important Factor**

Viscosupplementation "medicines" also come in several different formulas.

Just like all medications, some people respond better to one than another. While many doctors only use one formula, the experts at NYC Pain MD use several and great effort is taken to figure out what the best one is for you.

### **What Should You Do If Viscosupplementation Fails?**

### **#2 Radiofrequency Neurotomy**

This treatment is called, "Radiofrequency Neurotomy." RF for short. RF is a procedure that is based on the theory that blocking the nerve supply to the painful area may alleviate pain and restore function.

Several branches of nerves that surround the knee are known as "Genicular nerves."

Radiofrequency waves are delivered to the Genicular nerves under advanced imaging to "block" the nerves.

Two procedures are performed. First, a test, diagnostic "G Block" procedure is done to determine if the procedure is going to decrease pain and improve function.

If this first "test" procedure is successful, Genicular Neurotomy (GRF) is performed for long term relief.

### **Is It Safe?**

Research has shown this procedure to be safe and effective.

One study published November 4, 2010 in the journal *Pain* found that RF treated subjects on average "achieved at least 50% knee pain relief at 1, 4 and 12 weeks, respectively. No patient reported a post-procedure adverse event during the follow-up period. RF neurotomy of

## **Advanced Imaging Allows Doctors To Pin-Point Treatments And Relieve Knee Arthritis Pain**



**Science rescues knee arthritis sufferers?** Research shows joint injections done without advanced imaging misses the joint about 30% of the time. Now doctors can put lubricating fluid directly into the arthritis joint that may alleviate pain and restore function to many.

Genicular nerves leads to significant pain reduction and functional improvement in a subset of elderly chronic knee OA pain, and thus may be an effective treatment in such cases."

### **Who Should Try This Treatment?**

RF should be considered after other treatments, such as anti-inflammatory pain medication, physical rehab or viscosupplementation do not offer good enough results.

RF may be utilized before resorting to total knee replacement. RF allows many patients to avoid knee replacement surgery.

But - RF has also been found effective AFTER knee replacement surgery when the patient still feels pain.

The pain after a failed knee replacement surgery can be debilitating and this procedure may be the only thing that helps and give you after surgery relief.

### **What To Do Next If You Are In Pain**

**NYC Pain MD** offers a limited number of complimentary knee arthritis screenings every month. These screenings are a way for knee arthritis sufferers to get their questions answered and see if they are a candidate for one of the cutting-edge treatments offered at **NYC Pain MD**. If you would like to schedule a screening, just call 877-380-8537.

The screenings fill up fast every month. This screening is no cost and there absolutely no obligation.

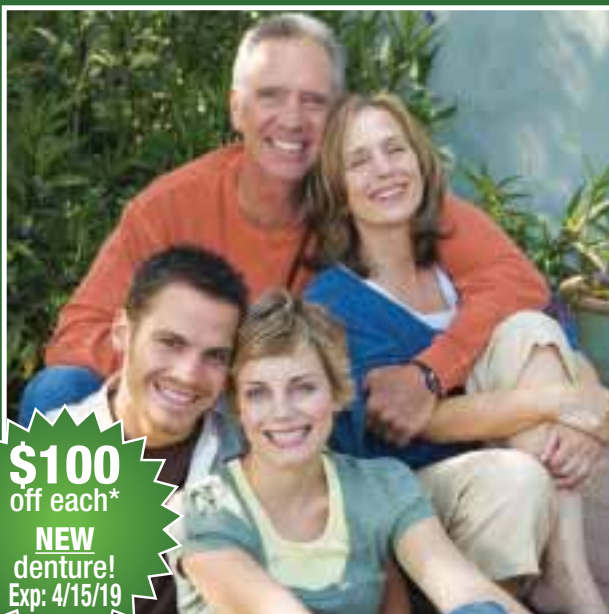
**More good news: for qualified candidates, insurances and Medicare often cover these treatments.**



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AR-15 rifles are displayed for sale at the Guntoberfest gun show in Oaks, Pennsylvania.

REUTERS

## Sandy Hook families can sue gunmaker Remington: Court

Plantiffs can now pursue a claim under Connecticut's consumer protection statute.

Connecticut Supreme Court on Thursday allowed families who lost loved ones in the 2012 Sandy Hook massacre of school children to sue Remington Outdoor Co. Inc. in a setback to gun makers, which until now have been largely shielded from liability.

The families of nine of the victims and one survivor have said the manufacturer, along with a gun wholesaler and local retailer, are partially responsible for the carnage at the Newtown, Connecticut, school because they marketed the weapon based on its militaristic appeal.

Adam Lanza, 20, used a Remington AR-15 Bushmaster rifle, a semi-automatic civilian version of the U.S. military's M-16, to kill 20 children aged 6 and 7 as well as six adult staff members at Sandy Hook Elementary School on Dec. 14, 2012. He then killed himself.

Remington did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation, the firearm industry's trade association, said it was reviewing the decision and did not have an immedi-

ate comment.

Josh Koskoff, one of the lawyers for the victims' families, said in a statement the families were grateful for the court's rejection of the gun industry's bid for complete immunity.

**"The families' goal has always been to shed light on Remington's calculated and profit-driven strategy to expand the AR-15 market."**

Josh Koskoff,  
lawyer

"The families' goal has always been to shed light on Remington's calculated and profit-driven strategy to expand the AR-15 market and court high-risk users, all at the expense of Americans' safety. Today's decision is a critical step toward achieving that goal," Koskoff said.

Legal experts have said any appeal of the ruling by the gunmaker would likely be taken up by the U.S. Supreme Court, where it could face steep legal hurdles.

The 2005 Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, or PLCAA, has provided the U.S. firearms industry an almost impenetrable defense against lawsuits by vic-

tims of mass shootings and gun violence, broadly shielding Remington and others such as American Outdoor Brands Corp., Sturm Ruger & Co. and Vista Outdoor Inc. from liability stemming from such incidents.

The families had tried to advance the case on a relatively novel argument in gun litigation based on the legal doctrine of negligent entrustment, an argument historically used when someone lends a car to a high-risk driver who then causes an accident.

But the narrowly divided Supreme Court judges rejected that theory in a 4-3 ruling, instead saying the families could bring their claims under a different exemption to the 2005 federal shield law, basing it on a Connecticut consumer protection statute.

The court said PLCAA did not bar wrongful marketing claims and unethical advertising of dangerous products for illegal purposes and that plaintiffs could pursue those claims under state law.

Three dissenting judges rejected that finding, saying the federal gunmaker shield law did not include such exceptions.

The tragedy led then-President Barack Obama to urge federal gun control legislation, but proposals died on Capitol Hill.

REUTERS

# The fight against erectile dysfunction

Don't worry. It happens.  
But there are ways to stop it!  
By Pat King

Many men deal with the awkward physical disability commonly known as erectile dysfunction. As a matter of fact, it may be a more common drawback for more men than you may think. According to a study conducted by the Cleveland Clinic, roughly 52 percent of men experience erectile dysfunction in their day-to-day lives, with 40 percent of men age 40 experience it and 70 percent of men age 70. So what are some ways that you can combat this ... gulp... disappointing condition that affects so many men in the bedroom?

## Eat and live right

As with many ailments, erectile dysfunction can be closely related to how much you exercise and how well you eat on a daily basis.

In a nutshell — by getting the right amount of cardio during the week, you will maintain a lower blood pressure which can help you to achieve healthier erections when it matters the most.

Eating right can also contribute to lowering your blood pressure with food like dark chocolate, pistachios, and watermelon all linked to lowering cholesterol and increasing the blood flow in the right areas. Some bad news for those who like the drink a few cocktails from time to time however is that drinking to excess has historically been linked to cases of erectile dysfunction. So try to cut back if you want to see improvements down there.

The importance of a healthy diet cannot be overstated in cases of erectile dysfunction as WebMD found. It is estimated that around "35-75% of men with diabetes will experience at least some degree of erectile

dysfunction during their lifetime." On top of that, men with diabetes will develop ED 10 to 15 years before men without diabetes.

## Cut out the problem at the root

While many pills and contraptions have been touted as the end all be all cures of this worrisome condition, few have produced the same exciting restorative results as the ErectionWave treatment. Created by board certified urologist, Dr. David Shusterman, this new innovative treatment has taken a different approach to this issue than, say, swallowing a couple vias on a nightly basis. The most exciting aspect of this treatment is that it actually works to cure the real issues behind ED and not offering a temporary solution. By directing high frequency rays towards blood vessels that have been blocked, ErectionWave treatment

will increase blood through these pathways to allow for stronger and longer lasting natural erections without the assistance of pills or useless penis pumps.

Another more direct erectile dysfunction cure is known as the Priapus Shot — or otherwise known simply as the "P-shot". This completely pain-free shot has been known to not only increase sex drive but increase the overall penis size to 3.5 centimeters. The shot gets these results by by kickstarting a man's own growth factors in his blood to recruit his body's own stem cells down to the penis causing quicker regeneration of tissue and blood vessels.

If you are interested in either of these groundbreaking treatments, make your appointment with Dr. Shusterman today by calling 212-661-0060.



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### Priapus Shot

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- ✓ Uses Your Own Regenerative Cells

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Pat King  
Grumble Editor

#### READER WRITE-INS:

#### BALANCE IS EVERYTHING

What's up with employees at places like Subway or Just Salad piling on ingredients when you order a sandwich or salad? It's okay to prepare everything quickly, but when I order red onions on my sub, don't pile on an ENTIRE ONION! Would you want to bomb your taste buds like that if you were making a sub for yourself? You gotta have some balance!



Please remember to send your Humbles to [humble@metro.us](mailto:humble@metro.us). These submissions can be acts of gratitude, positivity or kindness that you have seen throughout the day.

— Jeff, Metro New York reader

#### WHEN BANDS GO ON SUPER-LATE

I just LOVE it when you go to a show and the band you go to see takes their sweet time to get onstage. I saw a band last week and it took them an hour in between the opener and their set to start playing. By the time they started, I felt like I wanted to go home. I had to work in the morning!

— Sherry Lewis, Metro Boston reader

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**Aries** Look for the good in everyone and everything. Having a positive attitude and refusing to let your emotions cause a ruckus will help eliminate drama from your life.



**Taurus** Consider all avenues, but don't take the one that will cause distress. You'll gain the most in the long term by keeping the peace and working alongside others instead of causing disruption and chaos.



**Gemini** Consider what makes you angry or upset, and distance yourself from situations and people that have that effect on you. Spend more time with whoever brings out the best in you.



**Cancer** Convey the way you feel and what you want to see happen if you intend to make progress. If you pay attention to a loved one, the response you get will be rewarding.



**Leo** Try something new. Connect with people who share your interests, but don't feel compelled to buy others' friendship. Offer your fair share, nothing more.



**Virgo** You'll have a revelation that will lead to a big decision. Someone you meet will show you the ropes and get you started on a new adventure.



**Libra** Don't mix business with pleasure. Do your job to the best of your ability and make plans to spend time with a loved one. Don't take on responsibilities that don't belong to you.



**Scorpio** Taking a short trip, attending a meeting or learning something new will push you in an unexpected direction. If you go with the flow, you'll discover a hidden skill or talent.



**Sagittarius** Stick to the facts, or someone will question your assertions. You'll do best if you work alone and spend time on self-improvement, instead of trying to change others.



**Capricorn** Line things up and get started. Don't stop until you are satisfied with the results you get. A change at home will give you the space you need to start something new.

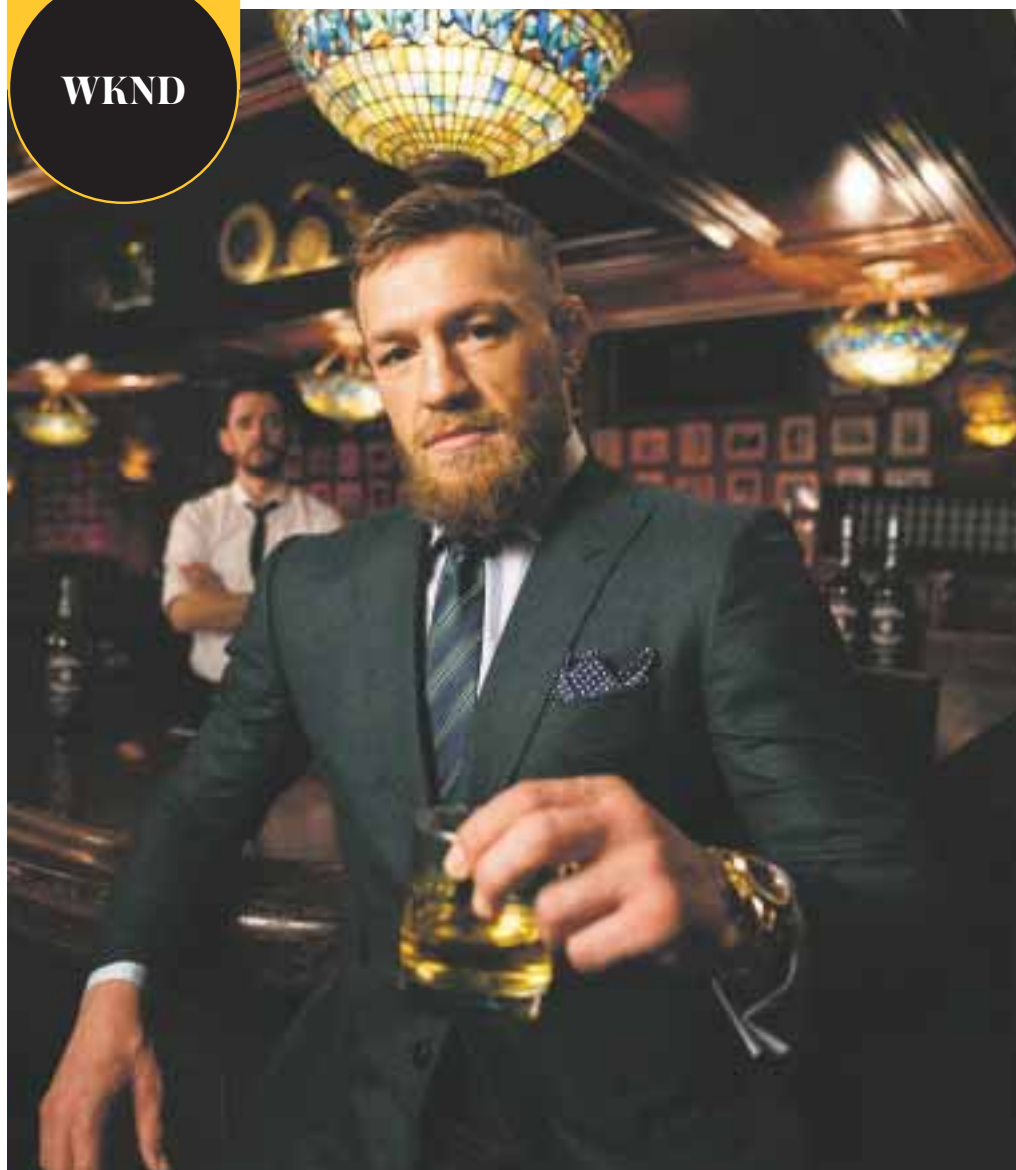


**Aquarius** Ignore what's going on around you and focus on being your very best mentally, physically and financially. Set goals and get started.



**Pisces** Invite friends over or plan an evening with a loved one. Sticking close to home will lead to simple changes that will improve your surroundings and add to your comfort. EUGENIA LAST

WKND



ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED

## A toast to *St. Patrick's Day* with Conor McGregor

The UFC superstar talks whiskey, business and more ahead of the holiday. **MATT JUUL**

St. Patrick's Day is right around the corner, and who better to celebrate with than Irish fighting phenom Conor McGregor. While the former two-division UFC champion has been on a bit of a break from the Octagon in recent months, that hasn't stopped him from taking over the whiskey game with his brand Proper No. Twelve. Ahead of this weekend's

holiday, we caught up with McGregor to chat about his growing whiskey business, how he likes to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, and more.

**After so much success in and outside of the Octagon, why did starting a whiskey brand feel like the right move for you?** The decision to make my own Irish whiskey was very natural, almost inevitable. I've always loved Irish whiskey — I'm a true Irishman after all. My grandfather, god rest his soul, played a huge role in my taste for Irish whiskey. He always told me about his love

for it, even when I was too young to have some. He would be proud of my Irish whiskey, Proper No. Twelve.

Over the years, I've been approached by many Irish whiskey brands asking me to endorse their product. I have nothing against endorsement deals; I have several with brands and products I believe in, that is no secret. However, Irish whiskey was always different for me. I wanted to create something that will still be here generations from now. Whiskey is timeless and we Irish make the best whiskey

there is.

I think we expected creating our own Irish whiskey to be a little easier than it was. It turned into a long, complicated project, but I wasn't going to rush the process. We all know I thrive on a challenge and on hard work. I found the best in the business; the oldest distillery on the isle of Ireland with a proven history of whiskey-making. I met my master distiller, previously at Guinness, and together we went through painstaking measures to create the Proper No. Twelve blend.

I love Ireland, its land

and its people. I was born here, will raise my children here, and I will die here. I wanted to make a proper Irish whiskey — something that would make my people proud.

**Fans have fallen in love with the Proper brand already. Were you surprised by how fast it's grown in such a short amount of time?**

The reaction to Proper No. Twelve has been energizing. We have reached unprecedented new heights with this liquid gold. Hundreds of thousands of people from all over the world have been reaching out asking where they can purchase a bottle.

The feedback we've received on our liquid and brand has been outstanding, and the support from people around the world has made me proud and has been incredibly humbling.

At launch, I told everyone I was going to give this my all and take the whiskey market by storm, and we did just that, with more to come. I expected Proper No. Twelve to be well received because it is a proper Irish whiskey and it is very reasonably priced. It is a blend of grain and the finest single malt Ireland has to offer. The taste is full-flavored, smooth and approachable. So was I surprised? No.

But did I expect to sell six months' worth of product in 10 days? Did I expect to sell out? Of course I did! You know you are doing well when your competition is reacting to you, doing all they can to slow you down and spending piles of cash targeting your brand on social media. We have not spent any money forcing the brand. It has all been organic, real and magical. We are the most-followed wine and spirit brand on social media in the world already.

We will make millions of bottles just in our first year and I am proud of that. We will be in multiple countries in our first year as well,

which is something others said could not be done. Don't doubt the Champ Champ.

**How do you like to celebrate St. Patrick's Day these days (aside from sipping on Proper)?**

I like to take a moment and stop and have a toast and say thank you to first responders. They are real heroes and I feel proud and lucky that we can support local first responders with sales from Proper No. Twelve.

**How has fighting helped you in the world of business and growing a brand like Proper?**

I always apply the lessons I've learned throughout my life to whatever the current project at hand is, so MMA and Proper

No. Twelve is no different.

A strong work ethic, the desire to learn and holding yourself accountable will get you far.

It would've been easy to just sign an endorsement deal or have someone else do all of the hard work, the tastings, etc., and just give me an overview. But that's not how I do things. Throughout the development process I was in training, I was fighting, I had a kid. I'm a perfectionist, I don't do anything half-assed. I wasn't going to sacrifice the

quality or taste of Proper No. Twelve to check it off the bucket list — this project means way more to me than that. Proper No. Twelve is who I am, and although I was anxious at times to just launch it — I couldn't wait to share it with the world — I'm so glad I took the time, put in the hard work, have the best team in the business, and launched it properly.

**Everyone wants to know when we'll see you back in the Octagon. Should we expect to see you back at some point this year?**

Right now, I'm focused on my training to get back into the Octagon. I can't tell you when that will be, but I can tell you I am ready.



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# Ways to spend your St. Patty's Day in NYC



PAT KING  
patrick.king@metro.us

This Sunday, the sounds of penny-whistle and zig-zagging merrymakers dressed in green will descend upon every corner of New York City to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. With the holiday falling on a weekend this year, the feeling of having the world as your oyster can be a little bit overwhelming, to say the least. Here are five things you can do this Sunday to make the most of your St. Patty's Day in the city.

**2019 New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade**  
This year marks New York City's 258th annual St. Patty's Day parade. An all-day affair, the parade begins at 11 a.m. and runs until 5 p.m. on Sunday. Spectators can view the festivities from the sidelines along 5th Avenue between 44th Street and 79th Street.

If you are looking to start early to get the full St. Patrick's Day experience, St. Patrick's Cathedral will be holding a morning mass at 8:30 a.m. that will let out right into the thick of things.

**St. Patrick's Cathedral is located on 14 E. 51st St. Tickets to their early-morning mass will cost \$20 per seat, so make sure to get there early!**

### Pint of Guinness at The Dead Rabbit

While this Financial District institution has earned the title of "World's Best Bar" due to its extensive and delicious cocktail menu, its attention to boozy perfection also extends to pouring the perfect pint of Guinness. And if you are going to be drinking Ireland's greatest export besides the music of Thin Lizzy on St. Patty's Day, you will want to make sure that The Dead Rabbit is at the top of your list. After polishing off a few pints, you might want to try out their

Old Fashioned. I mean, hey, you'll already be there!

**The Dead Rabbit is located at 30 Water St.**

### Corned beef and cabbage at Molly's

It's a known fact that at some point after a long day of drinking and bouncing around the city, you will need to eat something. But why settle for something quick like a dollar slice in between bars when you could actually keep the spirit alive for dinner? Molly's Shebeen Pub and Restaurant near Gramercy Park is not only known for its great selection of drafts and spirits, but also for serving up some of the best traditional Irish cuisine in the city. For the full St. Patrick's Day experience, try the corned beef and cabbage or Molly's traditional shepherd's pie with ground sirloin, veggies and mashed potatoes.

**Molly's Shebeen Pub and Restaurant is located at 287 3rd Ave.**

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**"To-Rye-Aye: An All-Star Tribute to Dexy's Midnight Runners" at The Bell House**

The Gowanus indie-rock club The Bell House will be offering a little change of pace for those who are looking to celebrate St. Patty's Day but might not want to deal with a bar packed to the gills with people shout-singing along to whatever vaguely Irish song comes on the jukebox. This year, The Bell House has assembled a tribute show to the Irish band Dexy's Midnight Runners fronted by punk lifer and pod-

cast host Ted Leo with members of Gramercy Arms, Elk City and Nova Social. Honestly, singing along to "Come on Eileen" with a tumbler of whiskey sounds like a pretty good way to spend a Sunday, regardless of it being a holiday.

*Doors open at 5 p.m., show at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15. The Bell House is located at 149 7th St. in Brooklyn.*

**End your night by saying goodbye to The Old Carriage Inn**  
While Sunday will be a day for celebration,

it will be a bittersweet one as well. One of Park Slope's most beloved Irish dive bars, The Old Carriage Inn, has announced that it will be shutting its doors for the very last time this Sunday night. While it won't be going out with one of its famous Saturday night karaoke blowouts, getting a stiff mixed drink amidst a sea of green-clad drinkers and paying your final respects will be the perfect way to cap off your night.

*The Old Carriage Inn is located at 312 7th Ave. in Brooklyn.*

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# Jury still out on Jacob deGrom, Mets contract extension talks

The Mets ace is 'optimistic' about a contract extension, but how likely will it happen before Opening Day?



JOE PANTORNO  
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'Optimistic' isn't a word that is thrown willy-nilly around the New York Mets organization often. Usually, when it is, it pertains to the innumerable health issues that have befallen the franchise which quickly ends in disaster.

Mets ace and reigning National League Cy Young Award winner Jacob deGrom, however, provided some insight about his current contract situation and if there is an extension on the horizon.

"I would like to be seen as a future part of this organization," deGrom said earlier this week. "We have till the end of spring, so yeah, I'm still optimistic."

"Optimistic."



Jacob deGrom hopes he can get a contract extension from the Mets before Opening Day. GETTY IMAGES

Proceed with caution.

The 30-year-old right-hander gave the Mets an Opening-Day deadline to negotiate a contract extension and secure him in Queens for the foreseeable future. DeGrom is under team control for the next two seasons, though he'll have to go through a fourth-round of arbitration following the 2019 season.

New York and its star avoided a hearing this year when settling on a \$17 million deal, a bargain considering there are 21 pitchers in Major League Baseball who are making more money than deGrom this year.

While deGrom is optimistic, Mets general manager Brodie Van Wagenen tampered those expectations.

"I'm not going to put a label on it," he said. "We're continuing to have discussions. There has been opendialogue, and I think that's important."

His sudden unwillingness to give deGrom a big-time extension is as hypocritical as it gets. The former agent represented deGrom through the 2018 season where he fa-

mously gave the Mets an ultimatum of committing to his client immediately or trade him away.

There's no denying that Van Wagenen is in a difficult spot. It's imperative that the Mets secure their ace through the remaining productive seasons of his career.

However, negotiations couldn't come at a worse time for the often-cheap

organization seeing as deGrom is coming off one of the best pitching seasons in baseball history. Since 1908, there had only been two pitchers that possessed a sub-2.00 ERA, over 250 strikeouts and fewer than 50 walks. The legendary Christy Mathewson did so for the New York Giants 111 years ago before Pedro Martinez with the Boston Red Sox in 2000.

DeGrom became pitcher No. 3 in that category as he finished with a 1.70 ERA with 269 strikeouts and just 46 walks.

That obviously calls for a handsome payday even though it's safe to assume that deGrom won't be able to repeat that kind of performance ever again.

If the Mets don't flash the cash on deGrom and proceed to struggle in 2019 while showing little motivation to further improve the roster, it might be too late to keep the ace. Unrestricted free agency following the 2020 season could look like the most appealing option which could force the Mets to try and trade him.

## Mets first-base stud Pete Alonso too good to be kept in minors

If it wasn't already abundantly obvious, the New York Mets have something special in Pete Alonso.

The 24-year-old first-base prospect has continued to tear the cover off baseballs in spring training as he's forcing the Mets to make a difficult decision.

After smashing 36 home runs with 119 RBI in a combined 2018 season between double-A and triple-A, Alonso is proving that his monster minor-league campaign was no flash in the pan.

In 12 games (35 at-bats) down in Florida, Alonso is slashing .371/.421/.743, good for a 1.164 OPS, with three home runs and six RBI. He went viral on Saturday when he launched a moonshot of a home run against the Boston Red Sox over the 44-foot

wall and out of JetBlue Stadium, nicknamed "Fenway South."

It was so impressive that Red Sox shortstop Xander Bogaerts had to stop his interview with NESN to comment, "Wow, that was loud."

It's just further adding to the building mystique of one of the Mets' most promising prospects in recent memory.

In most scenarios, Alonso would be a no-brainer to be the Mets' starting first baseman come Opening Day later this month. However, the Mets would be able to push back his eligibility for free agency until 2025 if they were to keep him down in the minors for the first 15 days of the season.

The tactic has become a common one across Major League Baseball, much to the chagrin of Major League



Pete Alonso is ripping it up at spring training for the Mets. GETTY IMAGES

Baseball Player's Association executive director Tony Clark.

"Seeing what players are going through

where their service time is being manipulated, on the front end and/or in the middle, is a concern, has been a concern

and will continue to be a concern," said Wednesday.

"We believe it's hurting the industry," he

continued. "Being able to say that you have the best players on the field at all times is something you'd like to be able to say. In the current climate, you can't say that."

In a National League East division that is expected to be an all-out rock fight between the Philadelphia Phillies, Washington Nationals, Atlanta Braves, and Mets, it's vital that New York fields the best possible product at all times. After all, this is an organization that has painfully learned how vital every single game is (see the 2007 collapse).

"One game in April is the same as one game in September," Clark said. "It can make the difference in whether you're shaking hands in October and being excited about the postseason or you're not." JOE PANTORNO

# What's next for Giants after OBJ trade?

With Big Blue now gutted, it's time for GM Dave Gettleman to start picking up the pieces.



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As New York Giants fans are sifting through the rubble of the past week, clues are beginning to emerge about Dave Gettleman's possible game plan moving forward.

The second-year general manager hasn't had a banner week, following the jettisoning of All-Pro safety Landon Collins with the unthinkable trade of franchise wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. to the Cleveland Browns.

It's left the Giants without two of their best young talents, leaving the likes of Saquon Barkley, Sterling Shepard, and Evan Engram to languish with 38-year-old veteran quarterback Eli Manning, whose \$23 million cap hit this season certainly threw a wrench in the organization's plans.

While some will argue that Manning should have been dethroned from his starting role years ago, the Giants are reportedly committing to the two-time Super Bowl MVP for the final year of his contract in 2019, which is expected to be his final year in New York.

As it stands, there is no contingency plan for the team's No. 1 quarterback after 2019, but that could be changing rather quickly.

According to ESPN's Dan Graziano, the Giants would likely pursue a trade for Arizona Cardinals second-year quarterback Josh Rosen. The UCLA product was taken 10th-overall during the quarterback-rich 2018 draft and struggled to produce inside the NFL's worst offense.

Sweeping changes throughout the organization that included the hiring of the former NCAA offensive guru Kliff Kingsbury as head coach is suddenly threatening Rosen's short stint in Arizona.



The Giants are showing interest in Josh Rosen and could make a play for him if he's put on the trade market. GETTY IMAGES

Kingsbury's new offense that will feature a dynamic air attack is going to call for a dual-threat quarterback that can make plays with his legs as effectively as he can with his arm. With Rosen being more of a traditional pocket passer, it's the main reason why they are expected to take reigning Heisman Trophy winner Kyler Murray out of Oklahoma with the first-overall pick of the 2019 draft.

Rosen's sudden expendability could be the Giants' gain. Despite a difficult rookie campaign, this is still a 22-year-old with plenty of upside seeing as he's just two years removed from a 3,756-passing-yard season with 26 touchdowns in just 11 games at UCLA.

Retaining Manning, as unpopular a move as it seems right now, would give the Giants a chance to give Rosen that all-important red-shirt year to become fluent in head coach Pat Shurmur's offense. It will only help that he'll have one of the greatest quarterbacks in franchise history showing him the ropes, too.

Acquiring Rosen would suddenly give the Giants the flexibility to address other needs in the draft this spring. Instead of spending their

sixth-overall pick on a passer like Ohio State's Dwayne Haskins — who has made it known that he would love to play for the Giants — the Giants could pick up a premier pass-rushing talent on the edge like Mississippi State's Montez Sweat or Florida State's Brian Burns.

Among the return from the Beckham deal, the Giants picked up Cleveland's first-round pick in this year's draft at No. 17 overall. It will give them a prime chance at picking up the wide receiver's replacement in Ole Miss' DK Metcalf, the top prospect at his position this year.

In total, the Giants currently hold 12 draft picks, though the second rounder at No. 37 is expected to be used should they make a play for Rosen. Still, Gettleman will have ample opportunities to address other needs such as the secondary and offensive line in the later rounds.

With approximately \$26 million of cap space still available, Gettleman has the funds available to make a move for another offensive lineman to guard Manning — and later on Rosen. Kevin Zeitler, who came over from the Browns in the Olivier Vernon trade, was the sixth-ranked guard in the NFL



last year by Pro Football Focus and is a good start by Gettleman. But the

Giants need an upgrade at the tackle spot, making a target like veteran

Mike Remmers a sensible, short-term option.

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of separation of the parties.  
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Beltre vs. Matamoros action  
was filed on June 18, 2018, in  
Civil District Court of  
Mecklenburg County, located  
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defense of this pleading no later  
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date of publication, March 15,  
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premises consumption. 35th Ave  
Hotel LLC.

## LEGAL NOTICES

I, Eva Anderson hereby notify  
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Grand St., Brooklyn, NY 11211.  
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consumption. Cybele LLC.

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Palace Inc.

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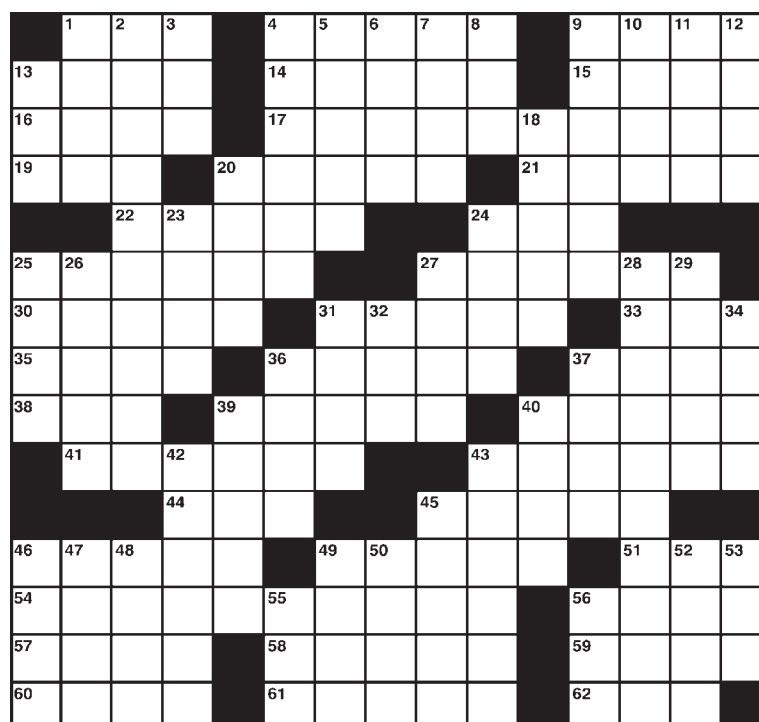
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- 1 "I \_\_\_ your pardon?"  
4 Water vapor  
9 Prefix for enemy or bishop  
13 Skirt style  
14 Refrain syllables  
15 Mah-jongg piece  
16 Cemetery division  
17 Deferential; courteous  
19 Feminine pronoun  
20 Counts calories  
21 Despised  
22 Combine; mix  
24 One of the Seven Dwarfs  
25 Winter Olympics sport  
27 Hoopster's goal  
30 Nervous  
31 Illegal payoff  
33 As likely as \_\_\_; probably  
35 Orderly  
36 Assumed name  
37 Celebrity  
38 Lion's home  
39 Taters  
40 Use profane language  
41 Not as fresh  
43 Remove text

- 44 To the \_\_\_; fully  
45 Sri \_\_\_  
46 Frequently  
49 Money for college  
51 Sunbathe  
54 Sin  
56 Exhale with relief  
57 Socially inept fellow  
58 Hora or hula  
59 Part of the foot  
60 Candy store chain  
61 Firstborn of two  
62 Suffix for giant or govern

## DOWN

- 1 Actor Christian  
2 Way too pricey  
3 "\_\_\_ Along, Little Dogies"  
4 Kite maker's need  
5 Covered with pines  
6 Vane direction  
7 European range  
8 Name with Fannie or Ginnie  
9 Assault  
10 Fissure; split  
11 Helpful hint  
12 \_\_\_ on to; kept  
13 Speedometer letters  
18 Picked  
20 Declare untrue  
23 Shopper's paper  
24 Brylcreem amounts  
25 Beach surface  
26 Leg parts  
27 Unfair slant  
28 Pleas  
29 BLT bread  
31 Make hazy  
32 Get \_\_\_ of; eliminate  
34 Hemlock or hazel  
36 Pinnacle  
37 Pout  
39 Street talk  
40 U.S. coin  
42 Reforms oneself  
43 Risk  
45 Steel-tipped spear  
46 Possesses  
47 On the house  
48 \_\_\_ off; left suddenly  
49 Objective  
50 Orange peel  
52 Grows gray  
53 Org. for Penguins & Ducks  
55 Ike's initials  
56 That girl



BY TCA

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Abe  
Al Pacino  
Brando  
Caan  
Coppola

Corleone  
Ford  
Francis  
Godfather  
James

Marlon  
Michael  
Sonny  
Vigoda  
Vito

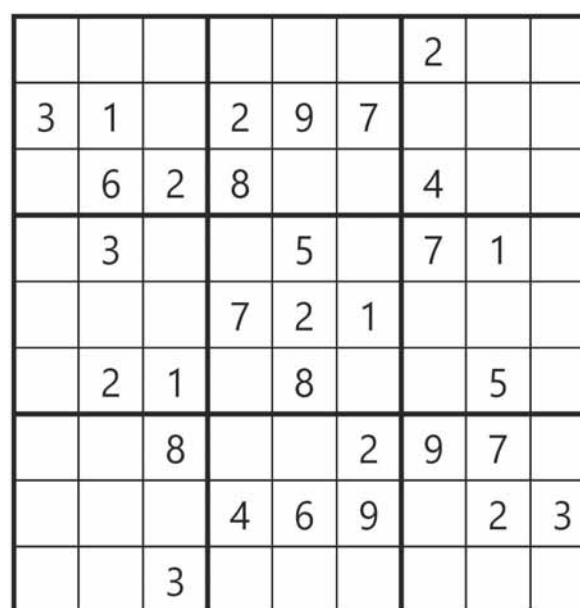
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